On Top Of The News

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Monday, January 11, 2010

INSIDE TODAY WORLD NEWS

RADICAL TALK



A Yemeni man passes framed pictures of Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh displayed at a shop in San'a, Yemen, Monday, Jan. 4, 2010. Security forces killed two suspected al-Qaida militants in clashes outside the Yemeni capital on Monday, officials said, as the U.S. and British embassies extended their closure for a second day because of threats of attack by the terror group's offshoot here.

Read more on Page A6

SPORTS NEWS



Baltimore Ravens defensive tackle Dwan Edwards (93) reacts in front of teammate Jarret Johnson after sacking New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady, lower right, during the third quarter of an NFL wild-card playoff football game in Foxborough, Mass., Sunday, Jan. 10, 2010. The play was nullified because of a penalty.

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California dodges major damage in 6.5 quake

DON THOMPSON,

Associated Press Writer

EUREKA, California (AP) — Residents of a Northern California county gingerly cleaned up Sunday after the area dodged a catastrophe, escaping a 6.5 magnitude earthquake with little more than bumps, cuts and broken glass.

Entrances to Eureka's Bayshore Mall were blocked as engineers surveyed for damage. Area bridges suffered some bent rails, and local stores reported messy aisles where bottles and jars flew from shelves and shattered, authorities said.

"We're very, very fortunate that it's not worse, but there is a lot of damage," Rep. Mike Thompson, said at a press conference.

Continued on Page 3



In this photo provided by the Ferndale Enterprise, damage to an antique store is seen after an earthquake in Ferndale, Calif., Saturday, Jan. 9, 2010. A 6.5 magnitude earthquake struck off the coast of Northern California Saturday afternoon, shaking buildings south of the Oregon border and knocking out power in several coastal communities.

Associated Press

Obama: 'No intention' to send troops to Yemen

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama says he has no intention of sending American troops to Yemen or Somalia. Obama told People magazine in an interview to be published Friday that he still believes the center of al-Qaida activity is along the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

"I never rule out any possibility in a world that is this complex," Obama said. However, he said, "in countries like Yemen, in countries like Somalia, I think working with international partners is most effective at this point."

Terrorism concerns are rising in Yemen, at the bottom of the Arabian peninsula, and in Somalia, critically located along key global shipping routes to Mideast oil fields. U.S. officials say they believe the suspect in the Detroit airliner attack received al-Qaida training in Yemen.

"I have no intention of sending U.S. boots on the ground in these regions," Obama said.

Gen. David Petraeus, who is overseeing the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, said Yemen's foreign minister has made it "quite clear that Yemen does not want to have American ground troops there. And that's a ... good response for us to hear, certainly."





President Barack Obama finishes his statement to reporters about green jobs and manufacturing, Friday, Jan. 8, 2010, in the East Room of the White House in Washington.

Associated Press

In an interview broadcast Sunday, Petraeus added: "We would always want a host nation to deal with a problem itself. We want to help. We're providing assistance."

And Adm. Michael Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told CNN, "Right now, as far as any kind of boots on the ground there, with respect to the United States, ... that's not a possibility."



Monday, January 11, 2010 UP FRONT

Aruba TODAY

enators: Punish U.S. officials over airline plot

LOLITA C. BALDOR **Associated Press Writer** WASHINGTON (AP) — As the Obama administration begins to address the failings behind the Christmas Day airliner attack, two senators said Sunday the U.S. needs to punish officials, correct security lapses and limit opportunities to join jihad overseas.

Sens. Joe Lieberman and John McCain took issue with suggestion that no one would lose his or her job over the incident. Neither called specifically for someone to be fired, and they did not name who should be disciplined. Lieberman, an independent from Connecticut, pointed to breakdowns at the State Department and the National Counterterrorism Center, where he said people failed to act to identify as a threat



From right, Sen. Joseph Lieberman, I-Conn., Sen. John Thune, R-S.D., Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., attend a press conference in Jerusalem, Sunday, Jan. 10, 2010. Israel's prime minister on Sunday accused the Palestinians of holding up the Mideast peace process, after Washington's Mideast envoy suggested the U.S. might impose sanctions on Israel to press it to make additional concessions.

Associated Press

his visa.

"At the National Counterterrorism Center, something went wrong," said Lieberman, the chairman of the Senate Homeland Security Committee. "So if human errors were made, I think some of the humans who made those errors have to be disciplined so that they never happen again."

Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, 23, is accused of igniting an explosive mixture aboard Northwest Airlines Flight 253 as it prepared to land in Detroit. Officials received fragments of information as early as October about an alleged terror recruit they later learned was Abdulmutallab.

Asked whether Obama should Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, National Counterterrorism Center head Michael Leiter or presidential counterterrorism adviser John Brennan, Sen. Jon Kyl, an Arizona Republican, said the advisers reflect the sentiments of the president.

"I think the president was right when he said, 'The buck stops with me.' The problem is he can't be fired right now," Kyl said. "So what he's got to do is provide

a sense of urgency with these people who work for him." Other lawmakers said the

U.S. should be more careful about releasing detainees held at the U.S. prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to countries where al-Qaida has a presence, including Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan Pakistan.

Last week Obama suspended the transfer of Guantanamo detainees to Yemen, home to nearly half of the 198 terror suspect detainees held at Guantanamo Bay. Obama has reiterated his vow to close the camp.

On Sunday, Rep. Peter Hoekstra of Michigan, the top Republican on the House Intelligence Committee, said a Saudi rehabilitation program for detainees has had mixed results and that individuals should not be sent there.

"You shouldn't be sending them back to Somalia, Afghanistan, Pakistan," said Hoekstra. "Because the evidence is clear — these people are released and a number of them go back onto the battlefield."

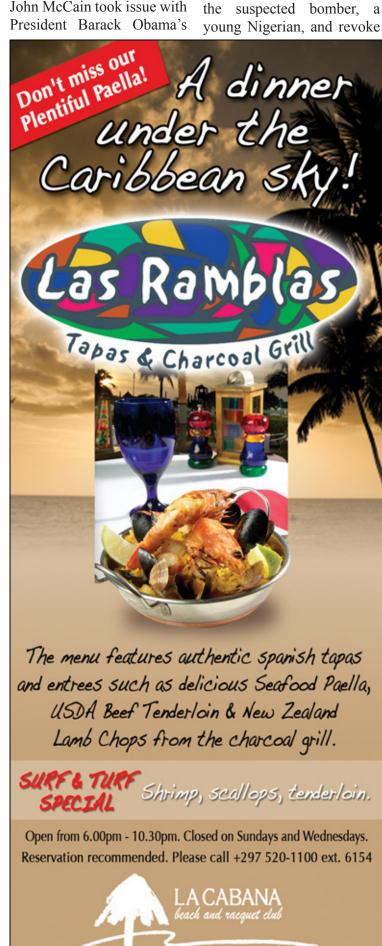
Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California, chairwoman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, agreed that more care must be taken in releasing detainees.

"I agree with those that have said that Guantanamo has really been a recruiting tool for al-Qaida, that it has not been helpful to us," she said. "They come out of Gitmo and they are heroes in this world," and the tendency is for them to go back to the battlefield.

In other comments, McCain, an Arizona Republican, said Abdulmutallab should have been treated like an enemy combatant and should not be tried in a civilian court. Sen. Jack Reed, a Rhode Island Democrat, disagreed, saying that the U.S. has charged and convicted hundreds of individuals in civilian courts since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

"It's an effective way to seek justice," Reed said. "It takes away the aura that the al-Oaida elements try to project, that these are soldiers, these are warriors, these are carrying a fight on. They're criminals."

Kyl and Reed appeared on "Fox News Sunday" while Lieberman and McCain spoke on CNN's "State of the Union." Feinstein and Hoekstra appeared on CBS' "Face the Nation."



U.S. NEWS A3 Monday, January 11, 2010

CALIFORNIA QUAKE Continued from front Page "This is a big deal."

Still, the Saturday afternoon temblor — centered in the Pacific about (35 kilometers) west of Ferndale — caused only limited structural damage and a few hours of power outage. There were no major injuries, other than an elderly resident's fractured hip.

A preliminary estimate of damage in Eureka came to \$12.5 million, said the city's fire chief, Eric Smith. No countywide assessment was available.

Agencies and residents were earthquake-ready, with plans in place and awareness of safety measures such as not hanging heavy things on walls. That helped avert destruction and panic, and sped along the recovery, officials said.

"I think we can attribute some of this to being prepared," said Phil Smith-Hanes, Humboldt County spokesman. "Folks in this area are used to living in earthquake country."

The quake's location — offshore, deep under the ocean and away from urban areas — also helped the region escape relatively unscathed what could have been a major disaster. A quake of similar size — 6.7 magnitude — killed 72

people and caused \$25 billion in damage in 1994 in the Los Angeles area.

An earthquake analyst with the U.S. Geological Survey said that while earthquakes cannot be predicted, a series will generally start with the largest tremor, then taper off in size and frequency. Several aftershocks struck the region overnight, some with magnitude as high as 4.1. None have been reported since early Sunday.

"Almost always we see this pattern where they taper off," said Don Blakeman, with the USGS. This quake happened at the intersection of three plates — the Pacific, the North American and the Gorda.

Rick Littlefield, owner of Eureka Natural Foods, said earthquakes are "part of the rules of the game up here."

The quake left some of the grocery store's aisles ankledeep in broken bottles, jars and spilled goods, a loss Littlefield estimated at about \$20,000. But the shelves were bolted in place, so they didn't topple. A generator kept power going. When the temblor hit, about 150 people were shopping, he

"A lot of customers freaked," he said Sunday morning. "People just dropped what they

said.



A Eureka Police officer walks across a damaged porch of a California Street house that was knocked off its foundation after Saturday's earthquake. A magnitude-6.5 earthquake struck off the coast of Northern California Saturday afternoon Jan. 9, 2010 shaking buildings, knocking out power in several coastal communities and leaving a trail of broken windows and dishes south of the Oregon border.

Associated Press

had — in the checkstand even. People who were in the middle of a transaction just bailed and left their stuff."

Power outages were widespread, affecting about 36,000 customers initially, but a quick response restored electricity to all by early Sunday, said Janna Morris, a spokeswoman for Pacific Gas & Electric Co





Monday, January 11, 2010 POLITICS

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GOP: Response to Reid remark shows double standard

DOUGLASS K. DANIEL
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)
— Republicans on Sunday accused Democrats of applying a double standard by accepting Sen. Harry Reid's apology for racial remarks about Barack Obama instead of demanding Reid's ouster as majority leader.

In a private conversation reported in a new book, Reid described Obama during the 2008 presidential campaign as a "light-skinned" African-American "with no Negro dialect, unless he wanted to have one."

Reid apologized to Obama on Saturday, and the president issued a statement accepting the apology and saying the matter was closed. Republican Party Chairman Michael Steele, in appearances on two Sunday television news programs, compared Reid's predicament with the circumstances that led Senate Republican leader Trent Lott to step down from that post in 2002. Lott had spoken favorably of the 1948 segregationist presidential campaign of Strom Thurmond, and in spite of apologies for those remarks at Thurmond's 100th birthday, Lott was forced out as leader.

"There is this standard where the Democrats feel that they can say these things and they can apologize when it comes from the mouths of their own. But if it comes from anyone else, it's racism," said Steele, who is black. "It's either



President Barack Obama makes a statement on health care reform after meeting with Senators, Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2009, at the White House in Washington. From left are, Senate Banking Committee Chairman Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn.; Senate Finance Committee Chairman Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont.; the president; and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nev.

Associated Press

racist or it's not. And it's inappropriate, absolutely."

Sen. John Cornyn of Texas, the chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee, said in a statement that Reid should step down, calling his comments "embarrassing and racially insensitive."

"It's difficult to see this situation as anything other than a clear double standard on the part of Senate Democrats and others," Cornyn said.

Democratic Sens. Dianne Feinstein of California and Jack Reed of Rhode Island joined other Democrats in saying Reid's apology and Obama's statement were enough. They also rejected comparisons to the Lott episode.

"I think that's a totally different context. Harry Reid made a misstatement," Reed said. "He owned up to it. He apologized. I think he is mortified by the statement he's made. And I don't think he should step down." Steele said Reid's remarks reflect an "attitude" by the Nevada senator, and Steele cited the

lawmaker's comment last month about those who would want to go more slowly on overhauling health care: "You think you've heard these same excuses before? You're right. In this country there were those who dug in their heels and said, 'Slow down, it's too early. Let's wait. Things aren't bad enough.' — about slavery." To Steele, "Clearly, he is out of touch not only with where America and his district are but where — how African-Americans generally feel about these issues."

Reid, whose tenure as majority leader has drawn criticism from liberals and conservatives, faces a difficult reelection bid this fall in Nevada, a state hard hit by the recession with one of the highest foreclosure rates in the country.

Asked to respond to Steele's remarks about Reid, the senator's spokesman Jim Manley said: "Sen. Reid is absolutely running for reelection. Nevadans are facing challenging times and they need the majority leader fighting for them to create

jobs and get the economy back on track."

In their book "Game Change," Time Magazine's Halperin and New magazine's John Heilemann report that Reid "was wowed by Obama's oratorical gifts and believed that the country was ready to embrace a black presidential candidate, especially one such as Obama — a 'light-skinned' African American 'with no Negro dialect, unless he wanted to have one,' as he later put it privately."

The behind-the-scenes look at the 2008 campaign that elevated Obama to the White House is based on the writers' interviews with more than 200 sources. Most of them were granted anonymity and thus much of the material could not be immediately corroborated. Democratic Party Chairman Tim Kaine said the remarks were inappropriate, but also contended that they came in the context of saying "positive things about his candidacy and why his candidacy would be strong."





TODAY FRIE SWALL SUNDAY WHIT YOUR

Have it your way



Malfunction forces emergency landing at New Jersey airport

NEWARK, N.J. – A United Airlines jetliner landed Sunday without one of its landing gear fully deployed, damaging its right wing after a frightening few moments for passengers, who were braced in the crash position before an "unbelievably smooth" touchdown that drew cheers.

All 53 people aboard got off the plane safely.

Flight 634 from Chicago was approaching Newark Liberty International Airport about 9 a.m. when the plane suddenly began ascending again, said passenger Paul Wasylyszyn of Chicago.

The plane then began circling the airport, said Jim Falk of Middletown, N.J., who was sitting near the front of the plane.

"Normally a big plane like that doesn't do a bypass, so we knew something was wrong," said Falk, 40.

The captain then came over the intercom, advising the 48 passengers that there was "an issue" with one of the landing gears on the Airbus 319 and they were trying to fix it. The captain was composed about the announcements, several passengers said, commending the crew for it.

"They did a great job," Falk said of the captain and crew. "There was no yelling, screaming, panicking or anything."

Despite the problem, the mood was calm, even when passengers were instructed to gird themselves for a crash, said Falk, who sent several text messages to his wife

about what was happening as she was on her way to pick him up from the airport.

Passengers braced themselves in "the crash position," Falk said

Three minutes to landing, the passengers were told. And then:

"We went down the runway, however they did it," Falk said of the landing.

"If you didn't know they were missing a set of wheels, you wouldn't have thought there was something wrong," Wasylyszyn said.

When the aircraft landed, part of its belly struck the runway, United spokeswoman Robin Urbanski said.

Passengers cheered and sighed when the plane came to a stop, Wasylyszyn said. Then they hurried out through the emergency exits, sliding down the chutes that had deployed and running as fast as they could toward Port Authority buses that were waiting to take them to the terminal, Falk said.

Everyone got "as far as you could" away from the plane, he said.

"I've had a lot of worse landings at Newark before," said another passenger, Paul Lasiuk, a 46-year-old Chicago resident. "It was unbelievably smooth."

Some of the right wing area was damaged, but the extent of the damage was still being determined Sunday, and Urbanski said it was not immediately clear what caused the malfunction.

Arlene Salac, a spokeswoman

A United Airlines Airbus 319 sits on the tarmac at Newark Liberty International Airport after making an emergency landing in Newark, N.J., Sunday, Jan. 10, 2010. Landing gear problems force the flight to make an emergency landing. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which operates the airport, said all 53 people aboard Flight 634 from Chicago were safely evacuated, and no injuries were reported.

Associated Press

for the Federal Aviation Administration, said the right landing gear did not extend, though its nose and left landing gear did.

Still, the landing "was smooth — it was scary smooth," said Falk. The owner of an electrical contracting business, he was traveling on business and returning from Las Vegas.

Falk said he was especially thankful to have an experienced pilot at the controls. United spokesman Michael Trevino said the airline would not release the name of the flight's captain Sunday but didn't specify when it would be available.

After the crew reported the problem, Newark airport was closed for about 20 minutes, said Ron Marsico, a spokesman for The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which operates the airport. The airport's other two runways were reopened soon after the plane landed, but some arriving flights were still being delayed Sunday evening by about an hour.





Arubu TODAY

Monday, January 11, 2010 WORLD NEWS emen's president open to dialogue with al-Qai

SAN'A, Yemen (AP) Yemen's president said he is ready to talk to al-Qaida members who renounce violence, suggesting he could show them the same kind of leniency he has granted militants in the past despite U.S. pressure to crack down on the terror group.

Yemen is moving cautiously in the fight against al-Qaida, worried over a potential backlash in a country where angeratthe U.S. and extremism are widespread. Thousands of Yemenis are battle-hardened veterans of past "holy wars" Afghanistan, Bosnia, Chechnya and Iraq, and though most are not engaged in violence now they preserve a die-hard al-Qaida ideology. "Any movement against al-Qaida will lead to the fall of the Yemeni regime," warned Ali Mohammed Omar, a Yemeni who fought in Afghanistan from 1990-1992 and says he met Osama bin Laden twice during that time.

If the U.S. or its allies become involved, whole (Yemeni) people will



Al-Qaida sympathizer, Ali Mohammed Omar, 42 talks to the Associated Press in the capital San'a, Yemen Saturday, Jan. 9, 2010. Omar, who said he is not a member of al-Qaida, warns of a bedrock of sympathy for the terror group among Yemenis that could turn to outright support, particularly if the United States becomes directly involved. Yemen's president said he is ready to open a dialogue with al-Qaida fighters who lay down their weapons and renounce violence, despite U.S. pressure to crack down on the terror group.

become al-Qaida. Instead of 30 or 40 people, it would become millions," he told The Associated Press in an interview.

Yemeni forces recently launched their heaviest strikes and raids against al-Oaida in years, and Washington has praised San'a for showing a new determination against al-Qaida's offshoot in the

The United States has increased money and training for Yemen's counterterror forces, calling al-Qaida in Yemen a global threat after it allegedly plotted a failed attempt to bomb a U.S. passenger jet on Christmas Day.

But President Ali Abdullah Saleh's comments raised the possiblity he could continue a policy that has frustrated U.S. officials in the past releasing al-Qaida militants on promises they will not engage in terrorism again.

Several have since broken those promises and are believed to have returned to al-Qaida's ranks.

"Dialogue is the best way ... even with al-Qaida, if they set aside their weapons and return to reason," Saleh said in an interview with Abu Dhabi TV aired late Saturday.

He said Yemen would pursue those who continued violence, but "we are ready to reach an understanding with anyone who renounces violence and

In the Yemeni officials have defended the reconciliation policy as a necessity, saying force alone cannot stop al-Qaida.

Associated Press

Saleh's government has been weakened by multiple wars and crises. It has little authority outside a region around the capital, and tribes dominate vast areas of the impoverished mountainous nation — many of them bitter at the central government for failing to develop their regions.

Hundreds of al-Qaida fighters, foreigners and Yemenis, are believed to be sheltered in mountainous areas. Al-Qaida Yemenis get help from relatives, sometimes of tribal loyalty more than ideology — and when the government kills or arrests militants or their relatives, it risks angering the heavily armed tribes.

Another factor is the regime's with hardline alliances such as Sheik Islamists, Abdul-Majid al-Zindani, one of Yemen's most prominent clerics. The U.S. has labeled him a terrorist for alleged links to al-Qaida. But the government relies on his tacit support and denies he is a member of the terror group. In a prayer sermon Friday, al-Zindani railed against U.S. pressure to fight al-Qaida,

accusing Washington and the

United Nations of seeking

to "impose an international occupation of Yemen."

In Yemen, "it is difficult to draw the line between who is a fundamentalist and who is al-Qaida. It's a spectrum," said Ali Saif Hassan, who runs a Yemeni group that mediates between the government and opposition.

But those with extremist thought "are everywhere, in the government, in the military, among the tribes and the wealthy," he said, and some could oppose cooperation with the U.S. against al-Qaida.

The regime has also used Islamic radicals to fight in an ongoing bloody war against Shiite rebels in the north and to oppose secessionists in the south — two threats that many feel the government sees as more dangerous than al-Qaida.

Omar, the Afghan veteran, is a case in point. He heads an organization in the southern city of Aden mobilizing against the secession movement.

During his time Afghanistan, the 42-year-old Omar recalled meeting bin Laden twice in the Pakistani city of Peshawar. He said they discussed the situation in Yemen, the al-Qaida chief's ancestral homeland.

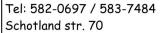
Bin Laden told him al-Qaida bought thousands of weapons sold off illicitly by the former independent government in south Yemen when it unified with the north in 1990, arms that remain in Yemen, Omar

After returning to Yemen in 1992, Omar — who says he is not in al-Qaida — was imprisoned twice, including a year-long stint in 2005 on charges he helped send militants to fight American troops in Iraq. He was acquitted and released.

He estimated Yemen has some 20,000 veterans from the Afghan war in the 1980s and 1990s as well as other Islamic extremist fronts like Chechnya and Bosnia. A smaller number have returned home from more recent jihads, like the war in Iraq, he said.

They and younger generations form a bedrock of sympathy for al-Qaida that could turn to outright support.





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WORLD NEWS A7 Monday, January 11, 2010

K reporter, U.S. Marine killed in Afghan blast

Associated Press Writer

LONDON (AP) explosion outside a village in southern Afghanistan killed a U.S. Marine and a veteran war correspondent who became the first British journalist killed in the conflict, officials said.

With the death of Sunday Mirror journalist Rupert Hamer, 18 reporters have been killed in Afghanistan since the U.S.-led invasion that followed the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks, according to figures kept by the New Yorkbased Committee to Protect Journalists.

"Tragically it was a matter of time," former British commander Col. forces Richard Kemp told Sky News television. "Our journalists, the same as other journalists, British journalists deploying on operations with forces in Afghanistan or Iraq face exactly the same risks as our soldiers face out there."

Hamer, 39, and photographer Philip Coburn, 43, were accompanying a U.S. Marine patrol Saturday when their vehicle was hit by a makeshift bomb near the village of Nawa in Helmand, the Defense Ministry said.

An U.S. Marine was also killed in the blast, the ministry said. Coburn was seriously wounded in the explosion but remains in stable condition, the military said. The Defense Ministry originally said that an Afghan soldier had been killed in the attack, but later released a revised statement saying that "there were no Afghan nationals killed or injured in this incident." The statement cited new information gathered from the field, but gave no further details.

The statement also said that five Marines were left badly hurt. It did not elaborate on their condition.

The past year has been particularly deadly

those fighting the war and those covering it. Canadian journalist Michelle Lang died late last year while embedded with Canadian troops in Afghanistan. An Afghan translator for The New York Times, Sultan Munadi, was killed in September during a rescue operation.

The Sunday Mirror said that Hamer and Coburn had flown to the region on New Year's Eve and were embedded with the American military. Their trip was to have lasted for a month, the paper said.

Both were veterans of reporting from conflict zones. It was Hamer's fifth excursion to Afghanistan, while Coburn previously reported from Afghanistan, Iraq and Rwanda. "Rupert believed that the only place to report a war was from the front line, and as our defense correspondent he wanted to be embedded with the U.S. Marines at the start of their vital surge into southern

Afghanistan," Sunday Mirror Editor Tina Weaver said in a statement.

The Sun's Tom Newton Dunn, who used to serve as the paper's defense correspondent, said he and Hamer often spent time together in the field.

"He was extremely good at getting news, and he really understood the armed forces, Newton Dunn told the BBC. "And was never afraid to go out to places like Afghanistan or Iraq.'

Government officials lined up to offer their condolences, with British Prime Minister Gordon Brown saying Hamer and Coburn brought "courage, skill and dedication to reporting from the front line," something he said ensured that the world could see and read about what international forces were achieving in Afghanistan.

British defense minister Bob Ainsworth said the pair accompanied him on his most



Sunday Jan. 10, 2010 by the Sunday Mirror shows defense newspapers correspondent Rupert Hamer who was killed in an explosion in Afghanistan Saturday Jan. 9, 2010.

Associated Press

recent trip to Afghanistan and that he was "impressed by their hard work and professionalism.

"My thoughts and deepest sympathies are with the families, friends colleagues of both men at this extremely distressing time," Ainsworth said.











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Aruba_TODAY

Martinique, French Guiana vote on autonomy measure



A resident of French Caribbean department Guiana casts his ballot for the referendum for more autonomy from France in Cayenne, French Guiana, Sunday Jan. 10, 2010.

Associated Press

RODOLPHE LAMY, Associated Press Writer

FORT-DE-FRANCE, Martinique(AP)—The French Caribbean departments of Martinique and French Guiana voted Sunday on a proposal to provide their governments with more freedom while remaining a part of France. Turnout was moderate early, voters in Martinique and 17 percent of 67,700 in French Guiana casting ballots on the referendum by midday, election officials said. Updated figures were not immediately

available as polls closed in the evening.

Guadeloupe for more than a month as union leaders

If approved, the ballot measure would allow local governments more administrative leeway. French President Nicolas Sarkozy would determine the extent of both departments' autonomy.

Article 74, as it is known, would replace Article 73 of the constitution, which has governed the political status of Martinique and French Guiana for 64 years.

Jaqueline Manger, who voted against the referendum, said article 73 still provides assurance that Martinique will continue to develop socially and economically.

"I would like a change, but I don't think we are ready yet. I don't trust the people who lead the regional council and the general council," she said, referring to the local bodies that govern Martinique.

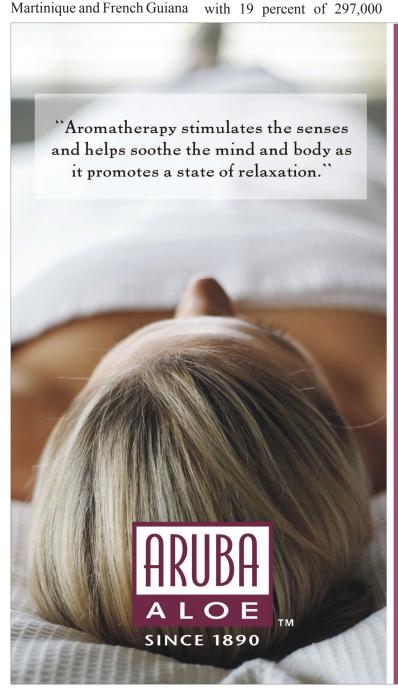
The referendum comes one year after violent strikes paralyzed Martinique and Guadeloupe for more than a month as union leaders demanded higher wages and lower prices. Business leaders agreed to several changes, but some unrest continues.

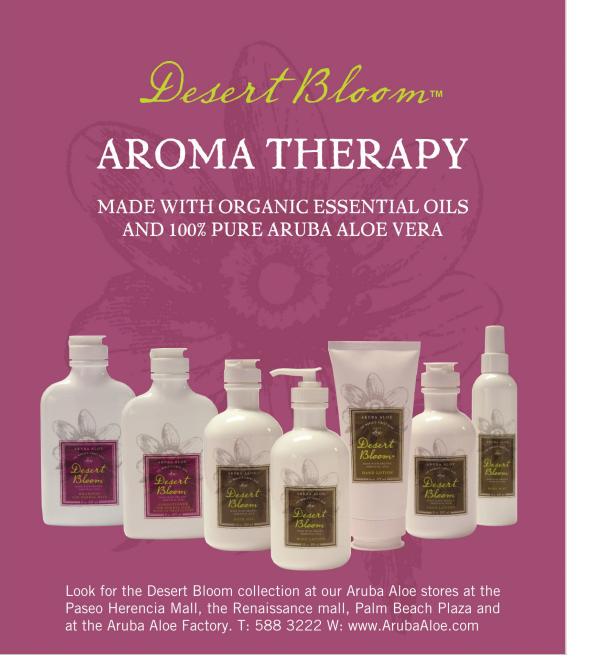
Sarkozy suggested the referendum in June following the strikes, saying the status of overseas departments was based on an "unfair, obscure and biased" system.

Retired union officer Felix Catherine said Martinique needs to evolve, but not solely through a referendum.

"Today, in a crisis situation, we have the choice to wake up so that the great decisions that concern us can depend on us and be decided by us," said Catherine, who declined to say how he voted.

Guadeloupe is not participating in the referendum because officials say the island is still struggling economically, and they prefer to first hold regional elections scheduled for March.







WORLD NEWS A9 Monday, January 11, 2010

Heavy snow halts planes, trains and cars in Europe

KIRSTEN GRIESHABER Associated Press Writer

BERLIN (AP) — Europeans were struggling to restore roads and railways Sunday after heavy snow caused hundreds of traffic accidents, halted flights from Germany and France, downed power lines in Poland and trapped more than 160 people overnight on a frozen German highway.

The 148 adults and 19 children stuck on Germany's coastal A20 highway survived by running their car engines until rescuers using snow plows and excavators pushed through 6.5-foot drifts to free them Sunday morning, police in the town of Altentreptow said. "At least the firefighters were able to bring them hot beverages and food while they were waiting," said Jens Apelt, a spokesman for the Altentreptow highway police. After being rescued, the people were brought to tents set up by local aid organizations until rescuers could unblock all the cars. "We're trying to free all cars from the snow so that the drivers can get back to their vehicles and take a different road instead," Apelt said.

Hundreds of weather-related road accidents were reported in Germany after a second day of heavy snowfall, especially along the Baltic Coast. Two men were killed when their car hit a tree in Nordvorpommern.

Ferry service across the Baltic to Scandinavia was canceled, and rough sea swells flooded several streets in the cities of Flensburg and Luebeck while threatening to break levees in the village of Dahmeshoeved. Rescue teams were busy repairing damage, the Germany news agency DAPD said. "The waves of the Baltic Sea are whipping against the boardwalk, pulling bricks out of the wall with incredible power which are flying around uncontrollably," police in Luebeck-Travemuende said in a statement.

In southeastern France, about 800 people at a snowbound airport in Lyon spent the

night huddled on waiting room armchairs or camping cots, after flights in and out of the southeastern city were halted Saturday night. Flights resumed gradually Sunday morning. France's TF1 TV

said freezing rain overnight made a virtual skating rink out of one highway near Tours in France's Loire Valley, with some cars skidding out of control and crashing into road barriers.



Berlin's landmark Brandenburg Gate and the snow-covered Pariser Platz are reflected in the window of a coffee shop in Berlin, Germany, on Sunday, Jan. 10, 2010

Associated Press



Aruba_TODAY

'Avatar' remains in orbit with \$48.5M weekend



FILE - In this file film publicity image released by 20th Century Fox, the character Neytiri, voiced by Zoe Saldana, right, and the character Jake, voiced by Sam Worthington are shown in a scene from, 'Avatar.' 'Avatar' remains the top box-office draw in the U.S. for the fourth straight weekend with \$48.5 million.

(AP Photo/20th Century Fox, File)

By DAVID GERMAIN, AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES – James Cameron's "Avatar" continues to race up the box office charts, remaining No. 1 domestically for the fourth straight weekend with \$48.5 million and placing second among all-time top-grossing films worldwide.

The science-fiction saga from 20th Century Fox added \$143 million overseas to raise its

international haul to \$906 million. With \$429 million domestically, "Avatar" has pulled in \$1.34 billion worldwide, behind only Cameron's "Titanic," which took in \$1.8 billion.

In just 24 days, "Avatar" shot past the \$402.1 million domestic total of "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen" to become the No. 1 release of 2009. Cameron's

tale of humans and aliens in conflict on a distant world now stands at No. 6 on the all-time domestic chart.

The film has just over \$100 million to go to pass the No. 2 domestic hit, "The Dark Knight" at \$533.3 million.

"I think we'll get there very soon," said Bert Livingston, 20th Century Fox distribution executive. "I believe anything is possible with this picture. Nothing would surprise me. There's a still a long way to go, and it's going to keep on playing and playing."

The No. 2 and No. 3 box office draws remained unchanged from the previous weekend, with the Warner Bros. hit "Sherlock Holmes" in second place at \$16.6 million and 20th Century Fox's "Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel" in third at \$16.3 million. "Sherlock Holmes" raised its domestic take to \$165.2 million, and "Alvin and the Chipmunks" lifted its total to \$178.2 million.

Among new Lionsgate's vampire thriller "Daybreakers" had the best premiere, coming in at No. 4 with \$15 million. "Daybreakers" stars Ethan Hawke as a reluctant vampire racing to find a substitute for human blood in a world overrun by the undead in the near future. Universal's romantic comedy "Leap Year" opened at No. 5 with \$9.2 million. The movie stars Amy Adams as a woman who finds love in an unexpected place as she chases across Ireland to propose to her boyfriend.

The Weinstein Co. comedy "Youth in Revolt," debuted at No. 9 with \$7 million. The film features Michael Cera as a teen going to extremes to win the heart of his dream girl.

"Avatar" had the best fourth weekend ever for a film, easily surpassing the previous high of \$28.7 million for "Titanic," which dominated the box office for nearly four months. The coming weekend likely will be another big one for "Avatar," with many people off next Monday for Martin Luther King Day.

Hollywood's box office roll has lingered in 2010. Overall domestic revenues came in at \$156 million, up 6.6 percent from the same weekend last year, when "Gran Torino" led with \$29.5 million, according to box office tracker Hollywood.com.

It was the eight-straight weekend of rising ticket sales. "The winning streak just continues," said Paul Dergarabedian, box office analyst for Hollywood.com. "The momentum of 2009 is just carrying over into 2010." Hollywood put up record revenue of \$10.6 billion domestically in 2009, easily surpassing the previous high of \$9.7 billion in 2007.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood. com

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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba.

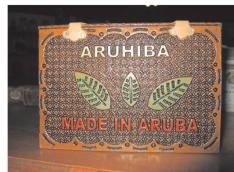


Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine

quality cigars. The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open on Sunday from 9am to 8pm. And also at Tamarijn Hotel open

from 9am to 1pm. Aruhiba is only available in above mentioned stores. Visit our authentic tobacco farm where cigars are handmade.









White House plans more to trim joblessness: aide



President Barack Obama speaks about the economy, Friday, Jan. 8, 2010, in the East Room of the White House in Washington. (AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

By Mark Felsenthal

WASHINGTON (Reuters) President Barack Obama plans more economic stimulus measures to bring down the high U.S. unemployment while cutting the rate. bulging budget is a longerterm challenge, a top White House economic aide said on Sunday.

"We are ... talking about actions right now to jump-start job creation," White House Council of Economic Advisers Chairwoman Christina Romer said on CNN's "State of the Union.

"You don't get your budget deficit under control at a 10 percent unemployment rate," she said.

Beating back unemployment will be a key yardstick by which U.S. voters will measure Obama's success in November congressional elections and will go a long way to determining his own long-term political future.

Also troubling to many is a budget deficit that has ballooned from spending aimed at cushioning workers and businesses through the worst recession in decades.

"We have to do something," Romer said.

"There are more targeted actions that we think absolutely will help."

Obama will focus is on getting

the U.S. fiscal house in order over the longer run, she said. Unemployment was stuck at 10 percent in December and businesses cut another 85,000 jobs, the lingering after-effects of the devastating financial crisis that triggered an economic global recession. With Obama's popularity drifting down to around 50 percent, his Democratic party is expected to lose seats in Congress in fall elections unless the White House can engineer a convincing economic turnaround.

Limiting the president's room to move is a federal budget deficit that hit a record \$1.4 trillion in fiscal 2009. The president has also promised not to raise taxes on U.S. families making less than \$250,000.

Obama on Friday announced details of a government funding program for clean technology jobs previously announced in the \$787 billion emergency spending package that he signed in February. Many analysts warn that adding to the deficit could have negative repercussions by scaring off investors in U.S. government debt, raising borrowing costs across the economy.

considering Congress is proposals to help labor markets that include a \$155

billion jobs package that has already cleared the House of Representatives.

Romer said more spending will be necessary to sustain a fragile recovery.

do more is overwhelming," she said on ABC-TV's "This Week."

Extending expiring unemployment benefits and

"The sense that we need to state aid would be important steps, as will narrower initiatives such as tax breaks to boost small business hiring, she added.

Bull market grows up

By SHAILA DANI, **AP Business Writer**

NEW YORK - The stock market rally is aging, and the surest sign is that investors are migrating to stocks that missed out on 2009's big run.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index is up 69 percent since March 9. The stocks hit hardest during the bear market, including financials and small-caps, led the rally during its first seven months. Now, however, investors are favoring utilities, telecommunication, health care and large-cap stocks.

The shift is a natural progression in a bull market and suggests that most of its gains have already been realized.

"The easy money is made the first year of a bull market," says Sam Stovall, chief investment strategist with Standard & Poor's. Based on historical trends, about a third of a bull market's gains occur in its first year. In its second year, it tends to rise about 12 percent. This bull market, like others, began with the first signs of the economy's recovery and quickly picked up momentum as investors went after the cheapest stocks. Investors bought financials, small-caps and companies with hard-to-predict earnings and high debt loads. Profits and sales at these companies were badly hurt by the recession and their shares had the furthest to bounce.

The S&P 500 Financials index soared 153 percent before reaching an Oct. 14 peak. That's more than double the broader S&P 500's gains. A similar trend occurred in 2002, when shattered technology stocks bounced and heralded the start of a new bull market. Small-caps and shares of cyclical companies such as chemical makers and miners that rely on a healthy economy for profits were also primed for a rapid recovery. The Russell 2000 index of small-caps climbed 82 percent from March through mid-October, beating largecaps by 20 percent. A Morgan Stanley index of cyclical companies rose 176 percent.

Stocks known as low-quality shares were also early gainers. The category is loosely defined, but analysts agree these companies tend to have high debt loads, hard-to-predict

earnings and few competitive advantages compared with rivals. While these are often smaller-sized companies, Morningstar considers large-cap names like Alcatel-Lucent and Ford Motor Co. to be lowquality. Analyst Paul Larson says an internal Morningstar index of low-quality stocks rose 176 percent from March to mid-October.

Now financials, small-caps and low-quality stocks are lagging the S&P 500.

The best-performing categories for the past two months were utilities, telecom, health care and high-quality stocks such as Procter & Gamble Co. and AT&T Inc. These categories usually perform solidly in any economy and often offer good dividends, characteristics that are especially important in the current market because the recovery is still uncertain. Investors see these companies as safer bets than the riskier ones that initially led the rally.

Historically, high-quality stocks have tended to perform well as a bull market matures, having been left behind in the early phase of the rally. In the second year of the last bull market, an index of the most reliable dividend payers, the Dow Jones U.S. Select Dividend index, beat the gains of the broader Dow Jones industrials by 20 percentage points.

Channing Smith, co-manager of Capital Advisors Growth Fund, said he's buying stocks like Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and Abbott Laboratories on the cheap. They are currently trading at price-to-earnings ratios of 15.5 and 15.2, respectively.

Investors watch P/E ratios, calculated by dividing the company's market value per share by its earnings per share, to get a sense of whether a stock is undervalued or overvalued. The P/E ratios for the stocks Smith is watching are below their historical averages and well below the current price-toearnings ratio of 18.6 for the S&P 500 index. "Many investors think they missed this huge bull market. They did in small-caps and midcaps," says Smith. "But the market right now is offering investors the opportunity to pick up some of the highest-quality blue-chip names."

SPURIS TODAY

Dansby's fumble return in OT gives Cards 51-45 win

By BOB BAUM AP Sports Writer

GLENDALE, Ariz. – Karlos Dansby's 17-yard fumble return for a touchdown in overtime gave the Arizona Cardinals a 51-45 victory on Sunday over the Green Bay Packers in the highest-scoring playoff game in NFL history.

Aaron Rodgers, who started the game with an interception but was marvelous after that, was stripped by Michael Adams. The ball careened off Rodgers' foot and into the hands of Dansby, who ran untouched for the score. "He made a sack, the ball went in the air, I just made a play on the ball," Dansby

Rodgers flung his helmet to the sideline in disgust as



Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers watches Arizona Cardinals' Karlos Dansby (58) run back a fumble after Rodgers was hit by Michael Adams (27) during overtime of an NFL wild-card playoff football game Sunday, Jan. 10, 2010, in Glendale, Ariz. Arizona won 51-45.

Associated Press

NBA Roundup

said.

Hornets win 6th in row, beat Wizards 115-110

WASHINGTON (AP) — Chris Paul scored eight of his 26 points in the final three minutes to lead the New Orleans Hornets to their sixth-straight win Sunday, 115-110 over a Washington Wizards team that has turned its game up a notch since the suspension of Gilbert Arenas.

Peja Stojakovic scored 20 points, and Paul added 14 assists for the Hornets, who have won three straight away from home to improve their road record to 5-13 after an abysmal start.

Antawn Jamison tied his season-high with 32 points, and Randy Foye had 23 starting in place of Arenas to set a season-high for the second straight game.

Celtics 114, Raptors 107

At Toronto, Rajon Rondo had 22 points, 13 assists and 10 rebounds for his first triple-double of the season, and Rasheed Wallace scored a season-high 29 points in Boston's seventh straight win over the Raptors.

Wallace made five of Boston's 11 3-pointers. Ray Allen, Paul Pierce and Kendrick Perkins each scored 16 points for Boston, which had lost four of six coming in.

Chris Bosh had 31 points and 13 rebounds, and Andrea Bargnani





Washington Wizards guard Randy Foye, left, and forward Caron Butler, right, defend New Orleans Hornets guard Chris Paul during the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game on Sunday, Jan. 10, 2010, in Washington. The Hornets defeated the Wizards 115-110.

Associated Press

added 23 points for Toronto.

Clippers 94, Heat 84

At Los Angeles, Chris Kaman had 22 points and 14 rebounds, Baron Davis had 11 points and 14 assists, and the revitalized Clippers won their sixth straight home game.

Eric Gordon scored 17 points and Rasual Butler added 13 for the Clippers. Dwyane Wade scored 24 points for the Heat, who have lost five of their past seven games.

the reigning NFC champion Cardinals rushed the field to celebrate.

It brought an abrupt end to a sensational passing duel to rival any the NFL has seen between playoff newcomer Rodgers and old master Kurt Warner.

"That's probably one of the best games ever played in the playoffs," Cardinals coach Ken Whisenhunt said.

Warner, who improved his playoff record to 9-3, completed 29 of 33 for 379 yards with five touchdowns and no interceptions. Rodgers was 28 of 42 for 422 yards and four TDs. All but two of Rodgers' yards came after the first quarter.

The previous high for combined points in a postseason game was 95 in Philadelphia's 58-37 win over Detroit on Dec. 30, 1995. It was the most points scored and allowed by the Packers in their storied 41-game playoff history.

Dansby started and ended the game with big plays. He broke up Rodgers' game-opening pass and Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie intercepted. The next time the Packers got the ball, Dansby stripped Donald Driver and Arizona's Alan Branch recovered.

With Anquan Boldin sidelined with ankle and knee injuries, Warner threw two touchdown passes to Larry Fitzgerald, two to Early Doucet and one to Steve Breaston, who caught seven passes for 125 yards.

The previous playoff game to end on a defensive touchdown was Jan. 4, 2004, when Al Harris returned an interception 52 yards for a touchdown in Green Bay's 33-27 win over Seattle.

Neil Rackers missed a 34-yard field goal at the end of regulation for Arizona.



Rice leads Ravens run game to 33-14 win over Pats

By HOWARD ULMAN AP Sports Writer

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. – From the very first play, Ray Rice and the running Ravens made the team of the last decade look old, overmatched and, oddly, inept.

Rice ran 83 yards for a touchdown with frigid fans still settling into their seats, Tom Brady had three of his four turnovers in the first quarter and Baltimore knocked off New England 33-14 on Sunday in the AFC playoffs.

"Their era is not over, they know how to win," Rice said, "but for the Ravens, to beat the New England Patriots set a precedent. We'll always remember this win."

The Ravens (10-7) were only slight underdogs to the team that won three Super Bowls from 2002 through 2005. That myth faded as quickly as Baltimore charged to a 14-0 lead in the first five minutes.

"One thing we said as an offense is we want to start games fast," Rice said. "I wanted to be the guy today to start fast, whether it was a 5-yard run or an 83-yard run. I wanted to be the guy to say this will be a fast-tempo game. We want the other team to play catch-up to us."

Now, if they beat Indianapolis and Peyton Manning next Saturday night, they'll reach the AFC championship game for the second straight year as a wild-card team.

"We'll enjoy it," safety Ed Reed said, "and I know what's next. No. 18 is coming. I know it, and he knows we are coming."

Not even Brady, the NFL Comeback Player of the Year, could overcome his mistakes and the absence of the league's leading receiver Wes Welker. Brady was 23 of 42 for 154 yards, two touchdowns passing and three interceptions.

But it was hardly a one-man collapse.

Randy Moss, covered tightly by Domonique Foxworth, caught only five passes for 48 yards. The Patriots' defense was so porous, allowing 234 yards rushing, that Joe Flacco only had to throw 10 passes, completing four for 34 yards. Rice rushed 159 yards for a team that averaged 182.6 on the ground in its previous five games.

"All of us that participated in the game are accountable for our performance," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said, "and I don't think anybody felt very good about it, players, coaches, anybody."

The Patriots (10-7) tried to rev up the crowd by sending the injured Welker onto the field on crutches for the opening coin toss. It didn't work. Six minutes into the game the crowd was booing the team that hadn't lost at home all season. "I'd have been booing us, too, the way we played," Brady said. "Playing the way we played today, we weren't going to beat anybody."

By the end of the first quarter it was 24-0.

"Any time we get a lead, it's hard to come back on our defense," the third stingiest in the league, linebacker Ray Lewis said. The Patriots received the second-half kickofftrailing 24-7. But Brady threw his third interception, matching his career playoff high, and Dawan Landry returned it 42 yards to set up Billy Cundiff's 23-yard field goal. Brady then threw his second touchdown pass to Julian Edelman, Welker's replacement, covering 1 yard. But the Patriots' defense struggled against the Ravens Willis McGahee runners. added a 3-yard score with

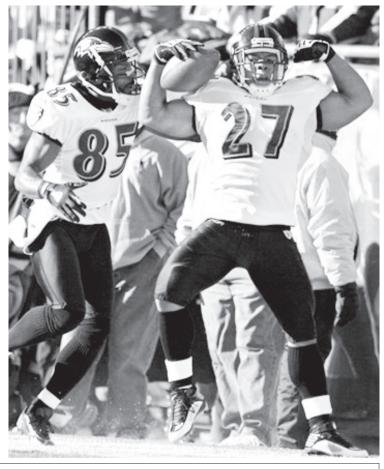
10:32 left to cap the scoring.

The Ravens, who lost the AFC title game to Pittsburgh last year, will try to make up for a 17-15 loss to the Colts in Baltimore on Nov. 22.

Since then, the Ravens are 5-2 after Rice, McGahee and Le'Ron McClain outran and overpowered the Patriots. Rice ran for two touchdowns and McGahee and McClain one each on the Gillette Stadium turf where the Patriots had been outstanding.

Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice (27) celebrates with teammate Derrick Mason (85) after scoring a touchdown on the first play from scrimmage during the first quarter of an NFL wild-card playoff football game against the New England Patriots in Foxborough, Mass., Sunday, Jan. 10, 2010.

Associated Press





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Pacquiao wraps up deal for Clottey



In this Nov. 11, 2009, file photo, Manny Pacquiao, of the Philippines, speaks during a news conference at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. Floyd Mayweather Jr. blamed Pacquiao for the collapse of their prospective bout Thursday, Jan. 7, 2010, claiming the Filipino boxer refuses to accept a reasonable compromise on drug testing concerns.

Associated Press



By GREG BEACHAM AP Sports Writer

Manny Pacquiao will fight March 13 at Cowboys Stadium, but not against Floyd Mayweather Jr.

Pacquiao promoter Bob Arum said Sunday he has finalized a deal to match Pacquiao against Joshua Clottey in a welterweight bout at the new \$1.2 billion stadium. Arum moved swiftly to land a lucrative fight for his Filipino star after his contentious negotiations for a megafight with Mayweather fell apart in a prolonged dispute over blood testing.

Arum was in Texas over the weekend to wrap up details for the pay-per-view fight, which will be the first boxing match in the stadium. Top Rank spokesman Lee Samuels said the arena will be configured to seat 50,000 fans for the fight, but the capacity could be raised or lowered.

"This stadium has blown me away," Arum told The Associated Press. "It is the most magnificent facility I've ever seen."

Arum took in the Dallas Cowboys' playoff victory over the Philadelphia Eagles on Saturday night, sitting just two seats from former President George W. Bush. Arum said Bush had the same reaction he's heard repeatedly since negotiations with Mayweather bogged down

"Too bad you didn't get Mayweather, but what difference does it make?" Arum said Bush told him. "Everybody just wants see Pacquiao anyway."

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones reportedly offered a \$25 million site fee for the Pacquiao-Mayweather fight, which fell apart over Mayweather's insistence on stringent drug testing and Pacquiao's reluctance to agree. The sides went into mediation to resolve the dispute, but a compromise couldn't be reached.

And though Arum is a longtime New York Giants season ticket-holder, he found common ground with Jones for another major event in the opulent new stadium.

"This is a competitive fight, as competitive as the Cotto fight going in," Arum said. "We got a tremendous deal at the site. It's a big event, and I think we'll do unbelievable."

Although Mayweather's representatives still were holding out hope the Pacquiao fight could be salvaged, Mayweather also is expected to fight March 13 at the MGM Grand Garden in Las Vegas, which would have been the site of his bout with Pacquiao. Paulie Malignaggi has been the most popular contender for that fight.

Although Clottey has no fraction of Mayweather's fame, he's a worthy welterweight opponent for Pacquiao, widely considered the top pound-for-pound fighter in the world. The hard-hitting Clottey (35-3, 20 KOs), a native of Ghana who lives in New York, is coming off a split-decision loss to Miguel Cotto last June, a fight that some felt Clottey won. Cotto went on to take a thrashing from Pacquiao in

November, losing when the

fight was stopped in the final

round.



In this Oct. 11, 2009 photo, Los Angeles Angels' Vladimir Guerrero hits a two-run single against the Boston Red Sox in the ninth inning during Game 3 of the American League division baseball series in Boston.

Associated Press

AP source:

Guerrero agrees to deal with Texas

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas

- Vladimir Guerrero is switching sides in the AL

Guerrero has agreed to a one-year deal with the Texas Rangers, opting to stay in the same division where he helped the Los Angeles Angels to five titles in the last six years.

A person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press about the agreement on Saturday, speaking on condition of anonymity because the contract hasn't been finalized and is pending a physical.

Guerrero batted .295 with 15 homers and 50 RBIs in 100 games last season with the Angels, who lost to the New York Yankees in the AL championship series.

Aruba TODAY

SPORTS A15
Monday, January 11, 2010



Andy Roddick wins Brisbane International

BRISBANE, Australia (AP)

— Top-seeded Andy Roddick survived a second-set collapse Sunday to win the Brisbane International title, beating defending champion Radek Stepanek after the Czech player double-faulted on match point.

The American's 7-6 (2), 7-6 (7) victory in the final capped his first tournament in nearly three months due to a 2009 season-ending knee injury.

Roddick nearly let the match slip away. He led 4-0 in the second set before Stepanek came back to take a 6-5 lead, with Roddick needing to hold service to force a tiebreaker.

The American dominated early in the tiebreaker, but Stepanek came from 6-1 down to make it close.

The Czech player held a set point at 7-6 in the second-set tiebreaker. Roddick won the next two points on serve, then watched Stepanek double-fault to hand him the Brisbane title.

The lopsided tiebreaker loss in the first set seemed to deflate Stepanek. Serving to open the second set, the Czech hit a forehand into the net, double-faulted, mis-hit a backhand and double-faulted again on break point to give Roddick a 1-0 lead.

Roddick led 4-0 before Stepanek broke the American's powerful serve twice to level the set at 5-5.

The 27-year-old Roddick injured his left knee in October, and the Australian Open warmup in Brisbane was his first tournament back.

Roddick's win ended Stepanek's nine-game winning streak at the Brisbane International.

"Radek, I know you won here last year and you were undefeated on this court and for a while I thought it might be your destiny," Roddick told the crowd at Pat Rafter Arena after his win.

"One thing about you, you get to every ball and never give up the fight — that's to be applauded."

It was Roddick's first career title in Australia — and in his first final Down Under. He has had a frustrating time at the Australian Open, making the semifinal four times in the past seven years, only to be denied a shot at the title.

Roddick said he had to "hold on to the last shred of sanity" to win the match.

"I didn't expect to come in and win my first tournament after a pretty extended layoff," Roddick said. "You could focus on the last 20 minutes of stress or look at the whole week ... overall I feel pretty good about it.

"It was weird. I don't think I have squandered a lead where I have been putting in first

Andy Roddick of the United States holds up the winner's trophy after beating Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic 7-6,7-6 in their men's final finals at the Brisbane International tennis tournament in Brisbane, Australia, Sunday, Jan. 10, 2010.

Associated Press

serves and making approach shots. And in the breakers it was the same deal. I kept making first serves so that was helping me hold on to the last shred of sanity I had.

"But at the end of the day the only thing that will be remembered is the 'w' (win)."

Stepanek was happy with his ability to nearly turn the match around.

"To come back from 1-5 down (in the second set) against a player such as Andy with a tremendous serve, it was a great battle," Stepanek said.

"Inever gave up. I was fighting until the last point. I said to myself 'you are in Brisbane, you won here last year, there is something special here', but in the end it wasn't good enough."

The Brisbane women's singles champion was decided Saturday when Kim Clijsters beat fellow Belgian Justine Henin 6-3, 4-6, 7-6 (6) in a clash of two players back on tour after temporary retirements.







SPURIS TODAY



New Jersey Devils' Zach Parise flies into Tampa Bay Lightning's Paul Szczechura, rear, during the third period of an NHL hockey game Sunday, Jan. 10, 2010, in Newark, N.J. The game is a continuation of Friday night's game which had to be postponed due to a lighting problem. The Lightning won 4-2.

Associated Press

NHL Roundup

Lightning finish off Devils in suspended game, 4-2

NEWARK, New Jersey (AP) — Mike Smith made 33 saves as the Tampa Bay Lightning finished off the New Jersey Devils 4-2 on Sunday in the completion of an NHL game that was suspended two nights earlier because a lighting problem created a safety issue for the players. Tampa Bay led 3-0 when play was suspended Friday with 9:12 left in the second period, then killed off the final 29:12 on Sunday to snap a 10-game losing streak against New Jersey. Only about 3,000 fans returned for the completion of the game.

Steven Stamkos scored twice — once Friday and once Sunday — and Steve Downie and Brandon Bochenski added goals in the game in

which the players agreed not to protest playing three days in a row. On Saturday night, the Devils won 2-1 in overtime in Montreal, and the Lightning fell 4-1 in Philadelphia.

Travis Zajac and Zach Parise scored for New Jersey.

Hurricanes 4, Senators 1

At Raleigh, North Carolina, Rod Brind'Amour scored the winning goal, and Cam Ward made 31 saves as Carolina handed Ottawa its fourth straight loss. Tom Kostopoulos, Brett Carson and Eric Staal also scored to help Carolina win consecutive games for the first time since early December. Chris Kelly scored for Ottawa, and Pascal LeClaire stopped 29 shots.





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On Top Of The News

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Monday, January 11, 2010

Bisou Bisou Pink Opens at Palm Beach Plaza



PALM BEACH -- Bisou Bisou a twenty year old French brand that evolved to become a leading fashion name in the USA blending contemporary youthful styles and the Parisian street fashion, started the Bisou Bisou Pink line in its quest to conquer the hearts of Latin American women.

Page B4

Sand sculpture building for Starkey hearing professionals



PALM BEACH - Two hundred and fifty-five visitors from Canada enjoyed an afternoon of sand sculpting. The group, consisting of 60-plus clinic owners of Starkey hearing aids and their families, have flown

Page B9

Eva Goliger considers the Dutch islands of Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao the Third Frontier of the United States

By Eva Golinger:

Friday's violation Venezuelan airspace by a P-3 US military combat plane is another example of the escalation in provocations Venezuela against evidence of the danger US military presence in the region represents. During a live television broadcast, President Hugo Chavez revealed that at approximately 12:55 p.m. earlier that day, a US P3 combat plane took off from the air base in neighboring Curacao and entered Venezuelan airspace during a 15-minute period.

Two Venezuelan F-16 planes intercepted the foreign military aircraft, prepared to escort it outside Venezuelan territory. "When the F-16 planes attempted communication with the US aircraft, it immediately took off towards the north, but later it returned," announced

The state of the s

President Chavez. He said that at 1:37 p.m. Venezuelan time, the combat plane returned and flew for about 19 minutes inside Venezuelan territory. "It was escorted out and pressured by our F-16s, we didn't have to bring in the Sukhois," added Chavez.

The Pentagon has denied violation of Venezuelan

airspace, yet the Venezuelan military has video and photographic images of the US combat plane incursion yesterday.

Just days earlier, Venezuela's Vice-President Ramon Carrizalez had publicly denounced the intromission of a US military plane also originating from the air base in Curacao during 2009. The governments of Washington and Holland denied the violation, yet Carrizalez revealed an audio recording between the Venezuelan airport control tower and the US pilot while inside Venezuelan airspace. The pilot stated clearly that he was flying a US Navy military plane stationed at the base in Curação.

He claimed ignorance as to the violation of Venezuelan territory, stating he was "unaware" he had entered an authorized zone.

But the US military plane hadn't just merely crossed a border that some might argue is difficult to visualize, rather the pilot had flown over a strategic Venezuelan military base on La Orchila, a small island off Venezuela's northern coast, clearly well inside Venezuelan territory. This was not an isolated incident.

Since 2008, Washington has been increasing its military and intelligence presence on the small Dutch island of Curação, where it maintains a Forward Operating Location (FOL) since 1999. The original contract between Holland and Washington stipulated use of Curacao for counter-narcotics operations. But since September 11, 2001, Washington began using its military installations around the world to combat "terrorist threats" and threats against US interests, and in some cases, such as in Curacao and Aruba, violating the terms of previous military agreements that only authorized counter-narcotics or humanitarian missions.

By 2006, US operations from Curacao were not just US Air Force counter-narcotics missions, but a clear presence of US Navy, Marines, Army, Special Forces and CIA had taken over the tiny Caribbean

Continued on Page B3







Getting to and from Orlando directly

Aruba welcomes AirTran Airways service from Orlando, Florida



ORANJESTAD - Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA) welcomed AirTran Airways's first weekly flight from Orlando to Aruba on Saturday, January 9, 2010 with a traditional water canon salute. With the start of this service, AirTran Airways will connect passengers to and from Aruba via Orlando's International Airport, Aruba's 13th gateway in the United States. AirTran Airways uses B737-700 aircraft on the

route and offers 12 seats in business class and 125 seats in economy class. AAA together with its tourism partners ATA and AHATA will ensure the success and enhancement of this service in the near future. Orlando is a very popular destination for the local population who will now have an alternative option in air service. Tickets can be booked on AirTran

Airways' website www. airtran.com.



Today is a very good day" said Peter Steinmetz, Managing Director AAA, "our 13 th gateway in the USA has launched amidst the after effects of a very tumultuous year. Together with our partners at ATA and AHATA we are committed to work together with AirTran Airways in securing the success and expansion of this exciting new route. Orlando is an interesting route as it also has the potential of generating quite some Aruba originating traffic due to Disneyland and other amusement parks."

Four little owls

By: Roland W. Peterson Four little owls standing guard in front their house without a yard

Look me in the eye I will turn my head around and then tell you why

Once we were plenty
Then came along the big
snake
Now we are only four

Now we are only four Oh how wonderful it used to be before

This is all we have



A harsh place in the land A borough in the sand

Soon we will only be a photo

on the fifty florin bill So take care of and protect me This should be in your will **Photo by: Greg Peterson**



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Eva Goliger considers the Dutch islands of Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao the Third Frontier of the United States



Continued from Page B1

Together, the US military and intelligence community components were conducting joint exercises and operations to combat a "potential threat in the region." At the same

time, the Bush Administration was trying to brand Venezuela as a state sponsor of terrorism, despite the lack of any evidence to back such a dangerous accusation. Continued on Page B3

carriers, ships, war combat planes, Black Hawk helicopters, nuclear submarines, and thousands of troops to the waters of Curação to participate in "joint exercises" caused alarm in the region. The Commander of the USS Stout -- one of the war ships that docked in Willemstad during Spring 2006 -- declared to the Curação press on April 11, 2006: "...we are the most powerful Naval force in the world and the United States will defend friends in the region under all circumstances." Commander Thomas K. Kiss also exclaimed that his

The arrival of US aircraft powerful ship represented "...a formidable presence to defend US interests in the region."

That was in 2006. In 2008, the stakes intensified. Washington formally attempted to place Venezuela on the terrorism list, though Congress didn't approve the request because of oil dependence. But in July 2008, the US Naval Fourth Fleet was reactivated after almost 60 years, to "demonstrate US power and force in the region."

In 2009, a military agreement between Colombia and Washington was sealed, allowing the Pentagon to occupy and use seven military bases in Colombian territory and any civilian installation necessary.

US Air Force documents justifying the agreement and budget requests to improve Colombian military installations underlined the necessity to combat "...the constant threat of ... anti-US governments in the region" and to engage in Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance missions, as well as to improve the US armed forces' capacity to execute "Expeditionary Warfare" in the region. In December 2009, President Chavez denounced detection of a US drone plane that had violated Venezuelan territory from Colombia.

A US Department of State publication from 2006 classified the Dutch islands of Aruba, Bonaire and Curação as the "The Third Frontier of the United States," considering the Caribbean colonies part of the "geopolitical border of the United States." In reaction to the growing US military presence on Curacao, a local journalist commented, upon visiting one of the US war ships, "After leaving the war ship, we had the sensation that all of a sudden, we are now very important..."

Westin Resort, Aruba Names Bill Thompson as DoSM

The Westin Resort, Aruba is pleased to Golf Resort & Spa. His previous position announce the appointment of Bill Thompson as director of sales and marketing. A seasoned hospitality executive with vast knowledge of the Caribbean market, Thompson has over 35 years of experience in the hotel industry. In his new role, Thompson will oversee all sales and marketing activities, including group and leisure sales, food and beverage, catering and public relations for the 481room resort located on Palm Beach in Aruba.

"Bill is a respected industry veteran who brings a winning combination of experience with both the Westin brand and the Caribbean to the position," said Graeme Davis, Vice President Operations, Southern and Caribbean region. "We look forward to welcoming his unique perspective, which will further elevate the resort and guest experience."

A member of the Starwood Hotels & Resorts team for over 10 years, Thompson joined The Westin Resort, Aruba from his role as area director of sales and marketing for the southeast U.S. region with four Westin properties: The Westin St. John Resort & Villas in the USVI. Westin & Sheraton at Our Lucava in The Bahamas, The Westin Hilton Head Island Resort & Spa and The Westin Savannah Harbor was as director sales and marketing for the 285-room Westin St. John Resort & Villas.

At The Westin Resort, Aruba, Thompson will responsible for driving occupancy through a mix of group and leisure business, as well as the weddings market.

For meetings and events, the resort offers more than 20,000 square feet of function space, and for leisure guests, The Classic All-Inclusive package provides the value of an all-inclusive in a traditional resort setting.

Forresortreservations or further information, call (877) 782-0149 or visit www.westinaruba.com.

Located on seven and a half acres amidst the white sands of Palm Beach and encased by lush gardens and swaying palm trees, The Westin Resort, Aruba is a recently refurbished resort featuring 481 luxurious guest rooms and suites, eight restaurants and lounges, the world-class Casablanca Casino, a variety of activities, spa and nearby golf. The resort offers more than 20,000 square feet of flexible indoor and outdoor function space. The resort is located just seven miles from Queen Beatrix International Airport and five miles from downtown Oranjestad.



Aruba_TODAY

Bisou Bisou Pink Opens at Palm Beach Plaza







PALM BEACH -- Bisou Bisou a twenty year old French brand that evolved to become a leading fashion name in the USA blending contemporary youthful styles and the Parisian street fashion, started the Bisou Bisou Pink line in its quest to conquer the hearts of Latin American women. The Bisou Bisou Pink line is sexy, comfortable, and offers t-shirts, polos, jeans, lingerie, pajamas, casual clothing and accessories designed for chic and trend-setting women and girls, age seven and up.

The boutique in Aruba by Linda Breuer and Luis Urrea, at the brand new Palm









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Beach Plaza offers very attractive merchandise in a concept store, with inviting display cases, and many cute decorative features.





Netherlands - Verhagen pleased that US has lifted travel restrictions on people with HIV



Foreign minister Maxime Verhagen

THE HAGUE - Foreign minister Maxime Verhagen is pleased that people living with HIV can travel freely to the United States as of this vear. At international level, the Netherlands has always advocated that people with HIV should be able to

live normal lives without unnecessary restrictions on their freedom of movement.

ʻIn taking this step. United States has the joined over a hundred countries,' Verhagen said. 'I hope this

convinces the remaining 57 countries to lift their entry restrictions on people with HIV as soon as possible.'

Thusrday, Clemens Ruland becomes the first HIVpositive Dutch national to travel to New York without any entry restrictions, after winning a competition run by the AIDS Fund and the Dutch HIV Association.

The US imposed entry restrictions in 1987 because it regarded HIV as a highly contagious infectious disease, comparable to open tuberculosis.

People with HIV were banned from travelling to the US, except for short visits in exceptional cases. Obtaining a dispensation from the American authorities however required applicants to make their HIV status known.

years, both Netherlands and UNAIDS had called for an end to entry restrictions on people with HIV.

The Netherlands raised the issue repeatedly with the American authorities and at EU level□



Clemens Ruland responds to questions during an interview as he arrives at JFK airport Thursday, Jan. 7, 2010 in the Queens borough of New York. Ruland, a Dutch citizen, is among the first HIV positive people to enter the United States since the Obama administration recently lifted the 22-year ban which kept out thousands of HIV positive students, tourists, refugees and wouldbe adopted children.

(AP Photo/Frank Franklin II)

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HUMAN HINTS

The Ultimate Human Desire

The Ultimate Human Desire is to find Completion. The longing for our natural state of Unity lies in the deepest core of every Human. Unity Consciousness shattered itself into tiny individual fragments in order to understand separation, and to feel what it is like to forget that we're all from the same Source.

An infinite consciousness has no concept of separation, so individual pieces of Unity Consciousness entered into a three dimensional Human body to see what separation

and limitation were like. The point is to forget that we're all a part of Unity Consciousness. As a Whole, we thought it would be an interesting game. Think of God creating a rock that's too heavy for him/her to lift. The Infinite wants to experience Limitation.

That leaves us Humans with an inherent longing for completion.

We all know the excitement of attraction and the thrill of Union. Longing for Completion is the force that drives the Human Race. We seek Union throughout our lives. Our Desire for Unity drives us to grow and gives us the energy to strive for our goals.

Then, the instant attain fourth dimensional awareness, we remember that we've never been separate after all. We fully understand on an emotional level, that the physical realm truly is an illusion. When we see the game for what it is, we instantly want to jump back into it. Pieces of Infinite Spirit are clamoring to get into a Human body. Humanity on Earth is the greatest show in all the Energetic Realms, especially right now, at the moment we are is transforming into fourth dimensional awareness, while still in three dimensions. Cool. Embrace it, don't waste it.

This can be helpful in real life because the more you understand your motivations, the more you will become aware of your true intentions. When you understand what drives you and the results you strive for, you will be able to change them.

The underlying challenge is to find completion within our selves. We must realize that we ARE complete because we are all a piece of Unity. When we look for Completion outside of ourselves, we are looking for Unity in Separation, and we won't find it there. You satisfy the Ultimate Human Desire by looking inside yourself, accepting what you see and forgiving what you don't want to accept. There you will find Genuine Completion and natural fulfillment like Humanity has rarely experienced.

When you realize that you are One with the Whole, you will find infinite abundance in all aspects of your life. Realizing that you already have infinite abundance brings you closer to Unity and vice-versa. The energy works both ways.

Until Tomorrow...

Go to www.HumanHints. com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought.

HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

HumanHints.com, PO Box 997, Vail, CO 81658

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PG	FANTASTIC	CMR: FOX				
	daily:		4:00	6:00		NEW
	matinee:	12:00	2:00	late show:		
G	THE PRINC	ESS AND THI	E FROG			
	daily:		4:45	7:00		
	matinee:	12:15	2:30	late show:		
PG-13	THE BLIND	SIDE				
	daily:		4:00	6:45	9:30	
	matinee:	1:15		late show:	12:00	
PG	ALVIN AND	THE CHIPM	UNKS "THE	SQUEAKQU	JEL"	
	daily:		4:00	6:00		
	matinee:	12:00	2:00	late show:		
PG	OLD DOGS					
	daily:	4:15	6:15	8:15	10:15	
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PG-13	THE IMAG daily: matinee:	INARIUM 12:45	OF DOCTOR 6:00 3:30	PARNASSUS 8:45 late show:	11:30	

Matinee: sat & sun | Late show: fri & sat

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Aruba_TODAY

The best Brazilian Steakhouse in Aruba! Serving the Island's most exquisite deserts...

The best salad bar can be found in Texas



PALM BEACH – The health and calorie conscious among us need fear steakhouses no more. Whether it's a low-carb, low-fat, or even vegetarian diet you follow, Texas de Brazil Churrascaria fits into just about every dieter's menu plan. Low carb eaters will have all their expectations surpassed with a tempting carnivorous selection of umpteen cuts of sizzling beef, pork, lamb, sausage, and poultry. The meats are prepared in the healthiest style of cooking—slow roasting—where much of the fat drips off in the roasting process, so those looking for a lower fat option to sautéing, pan frying, or deep frying will also be able to indulge. The Brazilian-style steakhouse alsooffersupagardenfullofhealthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses-including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, homemade soups, and much more. The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

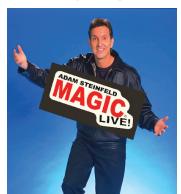
Restaurant open daily Monday - Sat 6 pm - 11 Sunday 5 pm - 11 pm For more information or to make reservations, please call 586-4686.





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MAGIC Live!. Comedy On the Beach 3 shows in 1



Magician Adam Steinfeld laughs it up, on stage, at the Magic Live!® theater, showroom.

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PALM BEACH - STEINFELD presents WOW factor! at the MAGIC LIVE!® ...theater-ofillusions show, Westin - Aruba openedonDecember25at 9PM. MAGIC Live!® theater-ofillusions show, starring Adam Steinfeld... is an amazing night of Magic, Grand Illusions and Comedy, superb magic at it's

highest level, a lot of fun from then the sections are taken start to finish, laugh-out-loud funny, intelligent, sophisticated, unconventional grand illusions, that will keep you asking, 'how the heck did he do that?' Perfect for the holiday season, have you ever dreamed of disappearing and reappearing in an instant? Master illusionist, comedy magician, Adam Steinfeld opened DEC 25, MagicLive show at the WESTIN, Aruba, nightly 9PM, every night, doors open at 8:30PM, and tickets may be purchased at the door, in the intimate

Magic Live! theater-of-illusions theater, every seat is close to the stage. In his new illusion he calls; "PRESENT", tall girl steps into a tiny box, elevated in-the-air, the box spins 360 degrees,

away, one by one, until the girl vanishes completely... right before your eyes!

Then as if that isn't enough to run to your local optometrist, he re-assembles the box for the magicbabe to make a triumphant reappearance. It's an all new original illusion not seen anywhere else in the world. I went back to see the show during rehearsals, and still couldn't figure out the secret.

Tourists and local fans will remember Steinfeld for past performances, in Aruba,



and on network television, Mr. Steinfeld recently authored Houdini Conspiracy", "Houdini Lives!", a collaborated work with new england mystery writer

> believes will be turned into a feature film. The intimate Magic Live!® theater-ofillusions showroom is located just off the lobby of the Westin-Aruba in high-rise area, j.e. irausquin boulevard 77. Palm Beach, Aruba. Magic Live!® BOX

Al Blanchard, he

OFFICE tickets are located in main lobby. Purchase TICKETS AT THE DOOR. SEE MAGIC, comedy and "seemingly impossible feats, get ready to marvel at the all new, MAGIC! theater-of-illusions starring ADAM STEINFELD, DECEMBER, 25, nightly 9PM at the WESTIN, aruba.MAGIC LIVE! theaterof-illusions show....at the WESTIN-Aruba, 9pm nightly, starring AdamSteinfeld.



IF YOU GO

website: www.MagicLive.com

Blog: www.MagicOnTheBeach.com

What: Magic Live! theater-of-illusions show Where: Westin - Aruba, palm beach (high-rise area) Who: starring, comedy illusionist, Adam Steinfeld Time: 9:00 pm, theater opens at 8:30pm Tickets: at the door Price: \$19.95 under 15, \$29.5 adults Group Sales: 561-1090

Arubu—TODAY

NAUTICA is now open at Palm Beach Plaza!



ORANJESTAD – Nautica, a modern American classic apparel store is now open in Aruba at the Palm Beach Plaza! Nautica offers quality, design and value while capturing the essence of an active, adventurous and spirited lifestyle.



Friday, the 8th of January was the grand opening event un Aruba's newest shopping center. It was shareholder Mr. Gregorio Alvarez's son Sebastián Alvarez Schemel who had the honor of cutting the ribbon and start celebrating

the presence of a brand new store. Many on Aruba have been waiting a long time for this moment to satisfy their shopping need for Nautica's quality apparel. The store is a joint effort of local Retail operator Representaciones Venaruba N.V. of the







Hernandez-Quero familiy with brothers Mr. German and Gregorio Alvarez.and their friend Mr. Franz Vollbracht as shareholders. Management and Financial advice is provided by Tower Trust (Aruba) N.V.

Founded in 1983, Nautica has evolved from a collection of men's outerwear to a leading global lifestyle brand with products ranging from men's, women's and children's apparel and accessories. Now part of VF (Vanity Fair) Corporation, a leader in branded quality apparel, Nautica has become one of the most important American lifestyle brands throughout the world.

Nautica took its name from the Latin word "Nauticus" for ship. Since one of mankind's first accomplishments in exploring the world was to take to the seas, a spinnaker logo was designed as a symbol of adventure, action and classicism. Today the world of Nautica represents both a rediscovery and reinterpretation of what Americans have always wanted to wear. Nautica is currently available in more than 64 countries with more than 170 Nautica branded stores worldwide.

And now also is back in Aruba.

Come and experience the new store and buy some great apparel for yourself or buy something special for a loved one. Management has assembled a local Dream team to staff the store, lead by the dynamic Verenna Salie-Christiaans. The store is located on the Northwest side (opposite Aqua Condominiums) of the new Palm Beach Plaza, conveniently in front of the Parking area, local 120.





Sand sculpture building for Starkey hearing professionals







PALM BEACH - Two hundred and fifty-five visitors from Canada enjoyed an afternoon of sand sculpting. The group, consisting of 60-plus clinic owners of Starkey hearing aids and their families, have flown

to Aruba for a week of fun in the sun and building a sculpture formed part of Sunday afternoon's activities. The group receives excellent care at the Hyatt Regency and they are loving the fabulous food, the beauty of the island and its hospitality, but most of all our weather, of course.

We caught up with the Starkey group on Sunday afternoon, as they were having lunch. The beautiful set-up in the tent was a joint effort by De Palm Tours and Mosaic of Fernando Mansur. The sandsculpture



building after lunch was directed by artistic genius Wikke Bollen and Sjoerd de Vries of Active Events. Whether the budding artists' sculptures came out as well as the ones made by Wikke remains to be seen... You can check them out on the

beach at the Hyatt Resort. The group will stay on Aruba until next Saturday.

Starkey Labs Canada is part of the Starkey Global Network. The hearing aids are manufactured all over the world.









The French Steakhouse delivers dining under the stars



Eagle Beach – The French Steakhouse at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa just added another charming dining option, a tropical outdoor courtyard, featuring delicious cuisine under the stars.

The famed French Steakhouse prides itself on the elegant dining experience it offers patrons in the fully airconditioned dining room. Yet recently the idea of adding a garden spot to the existing blueprint began to sprout in the creative mind of Executive Chef George Hoek, and he immediately recruited the landscapers to create the

intimate, lovely setting.

The French Steakhouse Ooh-La-La menu is now served indoor and alfresco, featuring creative appetizers, soups, salads, seafood dishes, poultry and the Pièce de Résistance South American & USDA Beef specialties.

Among popular appetizers the chef's Tropical Crab Cakes with pineapple & mango salsa and the Teriyaki Glazed Seared Duck Breast, served with garden greens and balsamic dressing, are real crowd pleasers.

True to the restaurant's French roots, the Onion Soup

is a classic, while the Honey Glazed Salmon Salad winks at the exotic East with a sweet soy dressing.

The menu features a great variety of seafood dishes from fresh fish to the totally sinful and amazingly-decadent Caribbean Stuffed Shrimp with Crabmeat and Bacon, which became an instant hit. The tequila and sweet chili glaze, lends the Jumbo shrimp a pure taste of heaven!



The French Steakhouse is naturally famous for the South American Churrasco steak, a signature preparation, which now shares the stage with juicy USDA beef specialties such as NY Sirloin and Filet Mignon.

Light-eaters will find the Jerk Chicken Skewers and the Lemon Herb Broilers very satisfying.

Open seven days a week from 5:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. the French Steakhouse is blessed with the nicest staff and a delightfully renovated dining

room with sparkling China, crisp linen, an interesting bread basket, colossal desserts and live jazz on piano with Eddy Samson who is Aruba's best entertainer, and a walking & breathing music encyclopedia, just whistle the tune, and Eddy will produce a symphonic version of your favorite song.

Hungry patrons will appreciate the Ambassador's 5-couse menu featuring the run of the menu highlights for just \$34.95 per person. www. manchebo.com.steakhouse



Giorgio's Ristorante Italiano introduces Menu Turistico

Eagle Beach -- Giorgio's Ristorante Italiano located at the heart of the low-rise hotels at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa, delivers authentic Mediterranean flavors, at a reasonable price.

The restaurant has just introduced Menu Turistico a three-course dinner featuring appetizers, main courses and desserts for just \$19.95, per person, plus 15% service charge.

Patrons may choose between home made soup and Caesar salad, Fettuccini Alfredo, Lasagna Casarecia, Spaghetti alla Bolognese or any favorite pizza with Tiramisu, Cheese Cake or Ice Cream for the sweet finale.

Executive Chef George Hoek is the resort's much-appreciated culinary expert. He was the recent recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award, presented by the Aruba Hotel & Tourism Association in collaboration with the Digicel Group. Chef George accepted the Shoco Award, the national award of excellence, and Aruba's top professional decoration, in the tourism industry.

Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar reinvents Beach Cuisine



Eagle Beach – Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa is widely recognized as the home of Beach Cuisine.

Executive Chef George Hoek and his culinary team serve a Sun Splashed menu on the ocean front terrace, raising the restaurant to a must-visit, must-try status.



The contemporary menu, lists many favorite dishes from around the world, borrowing inspiration from US, Mexican, Thai, Jamaican, Cuban, Greek and Mediterranean kitchens, all served with a tropical, Caribbean flair.

From Sun-Sational Salads, to



Cuban pressed jawbreakers and wraps, mid-day platters also include oversize Beef Burgers, Philly Cheese Steak Sandwiches and Hot Dogs.

The Pega Pega tropical & frozen cocktail list, with fresh fruit or ice cream smoothies, daiguiris, coladas margaritas, leaves nothing out, including Yellow Birds, Sex on the Beach and Mudslides, making a lunch-time brainfreeze, extremely easy to get! The Pega Pega, one of Aruba oldest beach bars is open on fabulous Eagle Beach, with unrivaled views, caring, gracious service, and relaxed atmosphere, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. The bar is open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

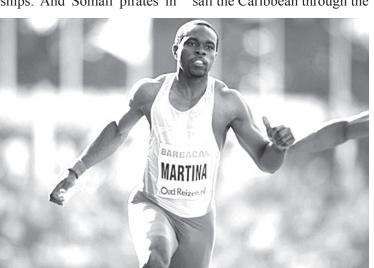
racy fears alter Star Clippers itineraries

For the past decade, Star Clippers has had at least one of its tall ships based in Thailand for half the year, but in a recent press release the company has said that when this winter's sailings end, there won't be another Clipper ship based in the region until the risk of piracy abates.

The tall and beautiful Star Clippers are probably particularly attractive proposition to pirates as they are easy to board and would struggle, even with their engine propulsion, to outrun pirate ships. And Somali pirates in

particular have a naïve belief that all British and Americans are rich, so tourists sailing on such an iconic cruise ship are likely to seem perfect targets for kidnapping to them. A British couple taken by pirates last year are still being held because their captors seem unable to understand that owning a yacht does not mean their families are capable of paying the alleged £4 million ransom.

Now, Star Clipper will relocate to St Maarten and sail the Caribbean through the



Churandy Martina after his 9.97 win in Hengelo

Phillips vs Martina on tap in the Karlsruhe 60m

Karlsruhe, Germany - Dwight Phillips, the World champion in the Long Jump, and Churandy Martina of the Netherlands Antilles will face off in the 60m at the BW-Bank Meeting in Karlsruhe on 31 January. The BW-Bank Meeting is the second of ten IAAF Indoor Permit Meetings in 2010.

Phillips, who regained the world title he previously captured in 2003 and 2005, will bring solid sprint credentials to the fast Karlsruhe track. He boasts a 6.47 career best in the 60m and last year clocked 10.06 in the 100m. Martina, 25, was fourth in the 100m at the 2008 Olympic Games where he clocked a national record of 9.93.

Bothwillbeaimingforthemeetingrecordof6.45 setby Frenchman Ronald Pognon in 2005, at the time, the European record. Also in the field is Steve Mullings, a member of Jamaica's 4x100m relay quartet which took World championship gold in Berlin last August.

Local eyes will focus on top German sprinters Christian Blum and Tobias Unger. Blum, 22, has a career best of 6.56, and Unger, 30, a former 200m bronze medallist at the World indoor championships, has a personal best of 6.60.

The women's 60m field will be headlined by American Angela Williams, the reigning World indoor champion in the short

Other top names previously announced include Germany's high jump sensation Ariane Freidrich, the World bronze medallist from Berlin, and Frenchman Romain Mesnil, the World silver medallist outdoors, in the Pole Vault. He'll face top German vaulters Alexander Straub and Tim Lobinger.



winter from that base for the foreseeable future.

The company cited, 'geopolitical conditions not related directly to the destinations' as the reason for their change of home port and also mentioned that having two ships based in the Caribbean next winter means that they can offer their passengers a very rare experience, the chance to enjoy some tall ship racing!

Many cruise lines have reconsidered their sailings through the Gulf of Aden and around Malacca, following the high number of pirate attacks in that area. Seabourn, MSC Cruises, Fred Olsen and Hapag-Lloyd have all changed itineraries, cancelled cruises or pulled cruise ships from home-porting in the region around the Indian Ocean in the past 18 months.

Fifth suspect arrested in bumper car murder case

COLE BAY--A fifth suspect has been arrested Busquet's murder was the fifth in 2009. The in the bumper car ride robbery/murder case, police and the Prosecutor's Office said in a press statement Wednesday.

Arrested in connection with the armed robbery of the bumper car ride during which owner Jean Claude Busquet (58) was gunned down on December 12, is Q.Y.R., a 21-year-old French national. He will be brought before the acting judge during the weekend.

The arrest was made thanks to the cooperation the investigating team comprising St. Maarten and Curação police, the Kingdom Detective Cooperation Team RST, and the Marechaussees had with French-side Gendarmes and the authorities in Anguilla.

Arrested on December 27 were A.C (19) and D.F. (26) of Guyana and D.E (33) and D.E (23) of Jamaica. According to the police, the first three suspects were directly involved in the killing of the businessman and the fourth was an accessory to the crime, as he had received items stolen during the robbery/murder.

year closed off with a sixth murder, that of another businessman, Eric Yuan Sam, on December 29.

Sam was gunned down in an attempted robbery of the supermarket he managed in Dutch Quarter. Police have claimed that no arrests have been made in the Sam case.

Half of the murders for the year took place in December. Also killed in that month was a Haitian national on December 11. That investigation is also ongoing.

Usually, St. Maarten has a hefty police presence in December, but the promised assistance from the Central Government that would have seen members of the Curação Zero Tolerance Team working alongside the understaffed St. Maarten Police Force never arrived.

A team of 15 detectives is now expected on January 15 to look into ongoing investigations. Their main aim will be solving crimes. Some technical assistance is also pending from the Netherlands.

Justice, setup of entities priorities, says Duncan

up to the Antillean Minister of Home and Constitutional Affairs Roland Duncan (National Alliance) the next cabinet would pay more attention to a new judicial setup.

According to Duncan, the allocation of funds for the benefit of St. Maarten to establish its future ministries

WILLEMSTAD--If it was should also be given priority in the talks on forming a new Central Government after the January 22 elections for the Antillean Parliament.

> "They could even become breaking points during the negotiations," he said. Duncan is working on an inventory of all established work in the framework of the constitutional transformation

process and matters which still need to be dealt with.

It appears the road has been cleared for the constitutional changes, according to the minister, who is on the NA candidate list in St. Maarten. Therefore, the focus should be on 10-10-10 and everything must be ready for the dismantling of the Netherlands Antilles.

Monday, January 11, 2010 CLASSIFIED/LOCAL



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"Hero" Solihull pilot Robert Mansell laid to rest

Arubu TODAY



FRIENDS and relatives of Midland pilot Robert Mansell were finally able to lay their "hero" to rest in a moving ceremony. Hundreds of mourners gathered at Knowle Parish Church in Solihull on Friday for the funeral of the 32-year-old, who saved the lives of nine passengers aboard his aircraft when he was forced to ditch it in the Caribbean Sea on October 22 last year. One of the survivors of the fateful journey had been due to attend the ceremony but had to cancel at the last minute as he found being on a plane too traumatic.

Robert's coffin was laden with flowers and a pilot's headset as grieving friends carried it into the church.

In a family tribute read by the Rev Richard Trethewey, he was said to have died "doing the job he loved" and was also praised for his "coolness and competence" in ensuring the safety of his passengers with his actions during the incident, which took place near the island of Bonaire in the Dutch Antilles.

Elder sister Claire Mansell read a moving poem while friend Vicky Brightman read out dozens of heartfelt tributes.

She said: "He would want us to be more adventurous and freespirited, to be bold and use a cheesy chat-up line.

"This isn't the first time we will get together to celebrate his life - it's the first of many."

A former pupil at Arden School and Solihull Sixth Form College, Robert studied aeronautical engineering at Bristol University. He was renowned for his "infectious" character and courage, doing bungee jumps and cage diving with sharks on his travels

The ceremony was attended by Meriden MP Caroline Spelman, who liaised closely with the Mansell family over the lengthy salvage operation of the aircraft.

In a wake at The Old Silhillians, mourners raised a Jack Daniel's and coke – Robert's favourite drink – in honour of the pilot as his father, Roger Mansell, paid tributes.

The 73-year-old thanked the Dutch and British governments for their help ensuring his son was brought home following "the last nine horrendous weeks".

"It's been very hard, from that fateful day in October," he said. "Initially it looked as though it wasn't going to happen. No-one was required legally to bring Robert home. It was the combined effort of a number of people that kept myself and Claire going.'

Family friend and former Spitfire pilot Jeep Holmes, 85, said: "He's a hero and should be honoured for what he did. He was a very good pilot."





|B13 LASSIFIED Monday, January 11, 2010

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Secretario Estado adjunto de **EEUU visita Colombia y Perú**



El secretario de Estado Adjunto estadounidense James Steinberg en una reunión en la OTAN, 21 oct 2009. REUTERS/ Dado

BOGOTA (Reuters) - El secretario de Estado adjunto de Estados Unidos James Steinberg viajará a Colombia y Perú, para profundizar el comercio, el desarrollo económico y la lucha contra el narcotráfico con los dos más importantes aliados de Washington en Sudamérica.

La visita de Steinberg a Colombia se produce en momentos en que el Gobierno del presidente Alvaro Uribe comienza una nueva campaña para lograr la aprobación por parte del Congreso de Estados Unidos de un Tratado de Libre Comercio vital para la economía de la nación andina.

El Departamento de Estado informó que en su primera visita a la región el funcionario se reunirá el próximo martes con Uribe y otros funcionarios de su Gobierno para analizar el estado actual de las relaciones bilaterales y asuntos de mutuo interés para los dos países.

"Se reunirá con representantes de la sociedad civil, organizaciones de derechos humanos y el sector privado para oír sus puntos de vista sobre los acontecimientos en Colombia y sobre la manera de seguir fortaleciendo las relaciones entre nuestros dos países", dijo un comunicado

El tratado comercial de Estados Unidos con Colombia no se ha aprobado por la resistencia de los demócratas que piden al Gobierno de Bogotá más protección para los dirigentes sindicales y los defensores de derechos humanos.

Los demócratas también exigen castigo para los responsables de decenas de asesinatos de líderes obreros y defensores de derechos humanos. La cancillería colombiana calificó la visita como un reflejo de "la importancia de la relación bilateral entre Colombia y los Estados Unidos".

Posteriormente, Steinberg viajará a Lima donde se reunirá con funcionarios del Gobierno de Perú, con quienes revisará el avance de los programas que apoya Washington en ese país y las maneras de profundizar la cooperación, la lucha contra el narcotráfico, el comercio y el desarrollo económico.

Los gobiernos de Colombia y de Perú son considerados como los principales aliados de Washington en Sudamérica, en momentos en que gobernantes de izquierda con un discurso en contra de Estados Unidos ganan injerencia en la región, como el presidente de Venezuela, Hugo Chávez.

Ortega de Nicaragua emite decreto en puja por reelección

presidente de Nicaragua, y izquierdista Daniel Ortega, emitió un decreto el sábado que extiende el mandato de funcionarios electorales que respaldan su intento por reelegirse en el 2011, en una jugada que sus detractores dicen que excede sus poderes.

El Congreso de Nicaragua el encargado designar a los funcionarios electorales, pero -divididos legisladores partidarios entre los de Ortega y la derecha opositora, no han logrado un acuerdo sobre si debe o no cambiarlos.

"Para evitar un vacío

MANAGUA (Reuters) - El de poder se ratifican que los legisladores de prorrogan en cargos (...), hasta tanto la Asamblea Nacional no nombre a nuevos funcionarios o ratifique a los actuales", dijo Ortega en un evento.

> octubre, la Sala Constitucional de Corte Suprema dijo que Ortega -un ex guerrillero enfrentado contra Estados Unidos- podría reelegirse, lo que fue respaldado de inmediato por las autoridades electorales.

> El Departamento de Estado estadounidense manifestó que la decisión de la corte amenazaba el orden democrático, mientras

la derecha nicaragüense están buscando revertir el fallo en el Congreso.

Además se espera que oposición rechace decreto de Ortega por usurpar funciones legislativas. Ortega gobernó al país por primera vez en la década de 1980, con el apoyo de Cuba y la desaparecida Unión Soviética, pero en 1990 perdió el poder en las urnas y la oposición prohibió la reelección consecutiva. El ex guerrillero sandinista, aliado cercano presidente venezolano Hugo Chávez, regresó a la presidencia en el 2007.

Congresistas EEUU dicen

TLC con Colombia va por buen camino

BOGOTA (Reuters) - Un grupo de congresistas de Estados Unidos dijo el sábado que la aprobación de un Tratado de Libre Comercio de su país con Colombia avanza por buen camino y confio en que sea avalado pronto por el legislativo.

El acuerdo es clave para Colombia, en momentos en que el país está siendo golpeado por una fuerte caída en sus exportaciones hacia Venezuela, por la restricción comercial que ordenó el presidente de ese país, Hugo Chávez, como retaliación a la firma de un pacto militar entre Washington y Bogotá, que ve como un riesgo a la soberanía de su nación. Colombia es el principal aliado de Estados Unidos en la región.

"Pienso que estamos en buen camino y espero que en el futuro no lejano podamos tener noticias positivas", dijo el congresista demócrata Eliot Engel, tras una reunión con el presidente colombiano Alvaro Uribe, cerca de la ciudad de

El Partido Demócrata ha mostrado reticencia a respaldar la tratativa comercial con Colombia, al que exige una mayor protección para los dirigentes sindicales y los defensores de derechos humanos, así como celeridad de las investigaciones y castigo para los responsables de la violencia contra miembros de esas organizaciones.

Engel dijo que espera reunirse en los próximos días con el presidente Barack Obama para hablar sobre la importancia del pacto. "El Tratado de Libre Comercio entre Colombia y Estados Unidos es uno de los aspectos que sabemos que son importantes, que tenemos que llegar a un acuerdo", agregó. Engel estuvo en la reunión con Uribe acompañado de los representantes demócratas por California, Lynn Woolsey, y por Nevada, Shelley Berkley, así como por el Comisionado por Puerto Rico, Pedro Pierluisi.



Venezuela devalúa bolívar y establece dos tipos de cambio

CARACAS (Reuters) - El Gobierno de Venezuela anunció el viernes una devaluación del bolívar y estableció dos tipos de cambio en el marco del control al dólar vigente desde el 2003, en momentos en que el país está en recesión y vive con la inflación más alta del continente.

El presidente Hugo Chávez dijo que desde el lunes habrá un tipo de cambio para sectores prioritarios como salud y alimentación a 2,6 bolívares/dólar y otro llamado "dólar petrolero" de 4,3 bolívares/dólar para otros rubros como el automotriz, comercio y telecomunicaciones.

El tipo de cambio único que estaba vigente hasta ahora, fijado desde el 2005, era de 2,15 bolívares por dólar, que regía para todos los sectores, lo que supone una devaluación del 50 por ciento respecto al "dólar"

petrolero" y del 17,3 por ciento para la tasa menor, lo que hace predecir a analistas más presiones inflacionarias.

"Todo esto lleva varios objetivos: el reimpulso de la economía productiva, el fortalecimiento de la economía venezolana, el frenar las importaciones que no sean estrictamente necesarias y también al mismo tiempo estimular la política exportadora", dijo Chávez desde un consejo de ministros trasmitido por la televisora estatal.

El mandatario, quien dice llevar al país hacia un modelo socialista, se había negado por mucho tiempo a devaluar la moneda a pesar de que analistas habían dicho que su Gobierno se veía forzado a hacerlo para enfrentar la recesión en un año de elecciones legislativas.



El presidente venezolano, Hugo Chávez, habla durante una reunión con ministros en el Palacio de Mirafores, en Caracas, el 8 de enero del 2010. El Gobierno venezolano anunció el viernes una devaluación del bolívar y estableció dos tipos de cambio en el marco del control al dólar vigente desde el 2003. REUTERS/Palacio de Miraflores/Handout





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